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best in the plantations of nearly every region where it has been introduced. As it also yields the best quality of rubber in the market, it is highly favoured by planters. There are now about 1,200 acres of *Hevea* trees in Ceylon and a still larger area in the Malay Peninsula.

The Government of the Gold Coast Colony, West Africa, in which Mr. Johnson is Director of Agriculture, sent him in 1902 to Ceylon to study the methods employed there in the cultivation of Pará rubber and other agricultural staples for market, with a view to introducing them into West Africa. This book is devoted to Pará rubber, and it will be very helpful to the increasing number of persons who are taking up rubber cultivation in Africa and other parts of the tropics.

It describes the Pará rubber tree in its native home and abroad, tells what experience has shown as to the best methods of cultivation, devotes a chapter to the insect pests and the fungoid diseases that attack it, gives the methods of rubber-collecting and the preparation of rubber from the latex, treats of the yield from cultivated trees in various regions, and makes suggestions as to the establishment and maintenance of a Pará rubber plantation. The author says that there are in tropical Africa thousands of square miles of land suitable for the cultivation of this rubber tree. A large part of this land has been occupied by rubber plants, which have been greatly diminished in number by the destructive methods of tapping employed by native collectors.

The Travels of Marco Polo the Venetian. Translation of Marsden revised by Thomas Wright. xxxix and 461 pp., Portrait of Marco Polo, Maps, 4 Appendices and Index. George Newnes, Limited, London, 1904.

In this edition of the standard translation of Marsden revised by Wright, their notes have been further revised, and a series of maps illustrating Marco Polo's travels, a list of contemporaneous events, and an exhaustive index have been added. It is a handsome and not an expensive volume, and may easily be carried in the pocket.

Through the Unknown Pamirs. By Lieut. O. Olufsen of the Danish Army. xxii and 229 pp., 58 Illustrations, 3 Maps and Index. William Heinemann, London, 1904.

This is a distinct contribution to our knowledge of the Pamirs. It is in no respect a narrative of travel. In his preface the author names the regions of the Pamirs that were the field of his studies. In the body of the book he scarcely alludes to his experiences, but reserves his pages for full descriptions of what he learned of the "Roof of the World" and its inhabitants during his two journeys in 1896-1899. Well equipped as Lieut. Olufsen is for geographical and anthropological investigations, his book is filled with new and valuable information, presented in a very readable form. The numerous photographs show a large variety of the aspects of the country and its inhabitants. Lieut. Olufsen's two expeditions covered the south Pamir from the territory around the River Gund and the Alichur Pamir to the Hindu Kush.

Per la Manciuuria a Pechino. Salvatore Minocchi. 360 pp. and 58 Photographs. Libreria Bernardo Seeber, Florence, 1904. (Price, lire 4.)

An animated account by an Italian traveller of a recent rapid journey through Manchuria across the Great Wall and to Tientsin and Peking. His descriptions are lively, and many of them relate to districts that the war has brought prominently into view. He gives a long chapter to Harbin, "the Russian capital of Manchuria," devotes 70 pages to Mukden, and describes at length Port Arthur and the large Chinese cities he visited. The pictures are excellent.